

Red Hill Website Content:

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#### Introductory Paragraphs

The Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility is an active and operational facility located near Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu, State of Hawaii that supports military operations in the Pacific. Originally built in the 1940s, the unique facility includes 20 large field-constructed underground fuel storage tanks constructed of steel, encased in concrete and surrounded and supported by basalt bedrock. Each tank has a storage capacity of approximately 12.5 to 12.7 million gallons resulting in a total facility-wide capacity of approximately 250 million gallons of fuel. Presently, 18 tanks are actively in use, and two are not.

In January 2014, in the course of refilling Tank 5 following its service life extension renovation work, the United States Department of the Navy identified an estimated fuel release of up to 27,000 gallons of JP-8 jet fuel from the tank and reported the release to the Hawaii Department of Health. U.S. Navy subsequently drained the tank and collected samples from existing monitoring wells. Results taken in and around Tank 5, indicated a spike in levels of hydrocarbons in soil vapor and groundwater. Current drinking water monitoring results confirmed compliance with federal and state concentrations for drinking water both before and after the January 2014 release.

In response to releases from the facility, U.S. Navy, Defense Logistics Agency, U.S. EPA and Hawaii Department of Health began negotiating an enforceable agreement, also known as an Administrative Order on Consent (“AOC”) under Section 7003 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, that establishes a timeframe for the U.S. Navy and Defense Logistics Agency to evaluate and remediate existing contamination to the extent practicable in the vicinity of the facility, as well as to evaluate and implement measures to prevent future releases. For more information, please visit [ [HYPERLINK "http://health.hawaii.gov/RedHill"](http://health.hawaii.gov/RedHill) ] .

On May 27, 2015, U.S. Navy and Defense Logistics Agency signed the proposed AOC in the matter of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. Links to the proposed agreement, work to be performed under the agreement, the documents considered by the agencies while negotiating the agreement, and an index of those documents are located in the *Documents* section above.

U.S. EPA and the Hawaii Department of Health provided the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed agreement and held a public meeting to present the content of the proposed agreement (see [ [HYPERLINK "http://www.epa.gov/region9/waste/ust/redhill/pdf/red-hill-epa-doh-presentation-06-18-2015.pdf"](http://www.epa.gov/region9/waste/ust/redhill/pdf/red-hill-epa-doh-presentation-06-18-2015.pdf) ] (30 pp, 1.4MB)), answered questions, and accepted verbal comments. The public comment period ended on July 20, 2015. U.S. EPA and Hawaii Department of Health will make the AOC effective only after the public comments are reviewed. U.S. EPA and Hawaii Department of Health may seek to modify the AOC or take other action based on any new information and comments from the public.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

In response to public interest in the AOC, U.S. EPA and Hawaii Department of Health have developed a Frequently Asked Questions (link to PDF) document to explain the Regulatory Agencies' proposed agreement with Navy and Defense Logistics Agency. This FAQ document answers the following questions:

Why did the Regulatory Agencies negotiate an AOC with the Navy and Defense Logistics Agency?

What if new information indicates that the Facility poses a much greater risk than current data suggest?

Why will it take such a long time to implement tank improvements under the AOC?

Can a double wall be added to the tanks at the Facility now?

What is the likelihood of a future catastrophic release at the Facility?

And More... (link to PDF)

For more information on the proposed AOC, please contact:

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